

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for ascertaining a center-of-gravity height of a motor vehicle, comprising:
 - ascertaining a variable representing a rolling motion of the vehicle about its roll axis oriented in a vehicle longitudinal direction;
 - ascertaining a variable representing a lateral acceleration of the vehicle; and
 - ascertaining the center-of-gravity height as a function of the variable representing the rolling motion and the variable representing the lateral acceleration, the center-of-gravity height being ascertained only in predefined driving conditions, the predefined driving conditions being a function of a change in a roll rate per unit of time.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the variable representing the rolling motion is the roll rate, the roll rate being a change in a roll angle per unit of time.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the variable representing the rolling motion is a roll angle.
4. The method according to claim 2, further comprising ascertaining the roll rate and, by an integration of the roll rate over time, ascertaining the roll angle, the center-of-gravity height being ascertained as a further function of the roll angle.
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the ascertaining of the center-of-gravity height includes ascertaining a product of a mass of a payload of the vehicle and a center-of-gravity height of the payload.
6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising ascertaining the predefined driving conditions as a further function of the variable representing the lateral acceleration.
7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the center-of-gravity height is

ascertained only in those driving conditions in which an amount of the change in the roll rate per unit of time is less than a factor multiplied by an amount of the variable representing the lateral acceleration.

8. The method according to claim 1, further comprising ascertaining whether a road surface has a gradient in a vehicle transverse direction, the center-of-gravity height being ascertained only in the case of a roadway which is one of (a) not inclined and (b) only negligibly inclined in the vehicle transverse direction.

9. The method according to claim 2, wherein the center-of-gravity height is ascertained as a further function of at least two driving conditions in which the roll rate has a substantially disappearing value, a change in the roll angle between the two driving conditions, and a change in the variable representing the lateral acceleration between the two driving conditions.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the center-of-gravity height is ascertained as a further function of an estimated mass of the vehicle.

11. A device for ascertaining a center-of-gravity height of a motor vehicle, comprising:

first sensor means for ascertaining a variable representing a rolling motion of the vehicle about its roll axis oriented in a vehicle longitudinal direction;

second sensor means for ascertaining a variable representing a lateral acceleration of the vehicle; and

ascertainment means for ascertaining the center-of-gravity height as a function of the variable representing the rolling motion and the variable representing the lateral acceleration, the center-of-gravity height being ascertained only in predefined driving conditions, the predefined driving conditions being a function of a change in a roll rate per unit of time.